

**For more details on outdoor adventure programs, call Greg Velzy at 748-1124.  
Please register at least one week prior to each activity.**

## Water Adventures

### Kayak – Beginning Whitewater

Spend day one on flat water learning kayak safety, technique and control. Day two is a whitewater river trip to introduce river reading and running and refine skills. Swimming ability is required. Rental includes kayak, paddle, spray skirt, personal flotation device and helmet. Minimum age is 13.

Dutch Gap Conservation Area, 513 Coxendale Road

Saturday-Sunday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

June 3-4	\$90 (\$110 with rental)	Course 12049
June 17-18	\$90 (\$110 with rental)	Course 12050
July 1-2	\$90 (\$110 with rental)	Course 12051
July 15-16	\$90 (\$110 with rental)	Course 12052
Aug. 12-13	\$90 (\$110 with rental)	Course 12053
Sept. 9-10	\$90 (\$110 with rental)	Course 12054
Sept. 16-17	\$90 (\$110 with rental)	Course 12055

### Kayak – Beginning Whitewater

#### Saturday Special

This is the same course as our Saturday/Sunday format, but spread over two Saturdays for those who have Sunday obligations, or just want to rest between days. See the above description of Beginner Whitewater Kayaking for information.

Dutch Gap Conservation Area, 513 Coxendale Road

Saturday, May 13 and 20

9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$90 (\$110 with rental) Course 11960

### Kayak – Whitewater Quick Trip

Don't have the entire day to paddle? The emphasis of this half-day trip will be on running the river with minimal instruction due to the short duration. Previous two-day whitewater kayak class is required. Rental includes the five essentials. Swimming ability is required. Minimum age is 13.

James River Park System

Saturday, April 29, 8 a.m.-noon	\$35 (\$40 with rental)	Course 11961
Sunday, May 21, 8 a.m.-noon	\$35 (\$40 with rental)	Course 11962
Saturday, June 11, 8 a.m.-noon	\$35 (\$40 with rental)	Course 12312
Saturday, July 8, 8 a.m.-noon	\$35 (\$40 with rental)	Course 12313
Sunday, Aug. 20, 8 a.m.-noon	\$35 (\$40 with rental)	Course 12314

### Kayak Play Days ☎

This after-work informal instructional time is for new whitewater kayakers (especially those without a boat) who wish to get time on the water. Instructors will answer questions and give pointers. There will be no structured class. Sessions will be held at Pony Pasture. No downriver runs will be made. Previous two-day whitewater kayak class is required. All equipment will be provided. Minimum age is 13 years old.

Pony Pasture, James River Park System

Wednesday, May 10, 6-8:30 p.m.	\$15	Course 11963
Wednesday, May 24, 6-8:30 p.m.	\$15	Course 11964
Wednesday, June 14, 6-8:30 p.m.	\$15	Course 11965
Wednesday, June 28, 6-8:30 p.m.	\$15	Course 11966
Wednesday, July 12, 6-8:30 p.m.	\$15	Course 11967
Wednesday, July 26, 6-8:30 p.m.	\$15	Course 11968

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 6-8:30 p.m.	\$15	Course 11969
Wednesday, Aug. 23, 6-8:30 p.m.	\$15	Course 11970
Wednesday, Sept. 13, 5-7:30 p.m.	\$15	Course 11971
Wednesday, Sept. 27, 5-7:30 p.m.	\$15	Course 11972

### Intro to Touring Kayak

This class is designed to teach the basics of flat-water kayaking. The class covers entries, exits, strokes, safety and the equipment needed to start kayaking. An optional tour of the Dutch Gap Conservation Area is included. Rental includes kayak and all equipment. Swimming ability is required. Minimum age is 11. Youths aged 11-14 must be accompanied by an actively participating adult.

Dutch Gap Conservation Area, 513 Coxendale Road

Saturday, May 20, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$49 (\$55 with rental)	Course 11980
Saturday, June 3, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$49 (\$55 with rental)	Course 12315
Sunday, June 11, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$49 (\$55 with rental)	Course 12316
Saturday, June 24, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$49 (\$55 with rental)	Course 12317
Sunday, July 2, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$49 (\$55 with rental)	Course 12318
Saturday, July 15, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$49 (\$55 with rental)	Course 12319
Sunday, July 30, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$49 (\$55 with rental)	Course 12320
Sunday, Aug. 13, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$49 (\$55 with rental)	Course 12321
Saturday, Sept. 9, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$49 (\$55 with rental)	Course 12322

### Touring Kayak – Plantation Paddle

See history from a new perspective by paddling in sea kayaks to view and tour some of the area's finest plantations. Start with a tour of Berkeley Plantation. Next, paddle down the James River to tour Westover Plantation and end the trip by paddling to Evelynnton Plantation for a tour. Fee includes guides, boat shuttle and plantation-tour fees. Bring a lunch. Swimming ability and previous kayaking experience are required. Minimum age is 15. Shirley Plantation, 501 Shirley Plantation Road, Charles City

Saturday, Aug. 19, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

\$55 (\$61 with rental) Course 12323

### Touring Kayak – Lighthouse Paddle

Launch your kayak from the southern tip of Mathews County. Next, stop at a sandy island for lunch and exploration, then continue your paddle to New Point Comfort Lighthouse, the third oldest lighthouse on the Chesapeake Bay. Paddling destination may change due to weather or water conditions. Minimum age is 13. Youths aged 13-15 must be accompanied by an actively participating adult. Formal kayak instruction is strongly recommended. Transportation to Mathews County is not included. Register by Aug. 1.

Hardee's in Mathews (Directions will be provided.)

Saturday, Aug. 12, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

\$50 (\$55 with kayak rental) Course 12167

Details: Mark Battista, 706-9690

For more details on outdoor adventure programs, call Greg Velzy at 748-1124.  
Please register at least one week prior to each activity.

## Canoeing

### Intro to River Canoeing – Level 1

This introduction to river canoeing teaches proper strokes, river reading and how to use the current to your advantage. Swimming ability and previous canoeing experience are required. Minimum age is 11. Participants aged 11-14 must be accompanied by an actively participating adult.

James River Park System

\$35 adults; \$15 11-14 years; \$5 per person equipment rental fee  
Saturday, July 29, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. **Course 12331**

### River Rescue – For Paddlers

Learn the basic river-rescue skills that every paddler should know. Day one will be an introduction to whitewater safety that will include swift-water wading, swimming, throw ropes and self-rescues. Day two will cover boat rescues and strainer drills. Swimming and paddling ability are required. Life jackets and helmets also are required and can be supplied if needed. Wet suits are recommended. Minimum age is 13.

James River Park System

Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 5-6, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. \$40 **Course 12333**

## Day of Sailing ☎

Bring a picnic lunch and board a cruising sailboat for a day of sailing on the Chesapeake Bay. This is a great experience for people who would like to try sailing for the first time or for people who have had instruction and would like more practice. Transportation to the marina is on your own (directions provided). Minimum age is 13.

Deltaville

Saturday, May 6, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$50	<b>Course 11988</b>
Sunday, May 21, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$50	<b>Course 11989</b>
Sunday, June 4, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$50	<b>Course 12339</b>
Saturday, July 22, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$50	<b>Course 12340</b>
Sunday, Aug. 6, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$50	<b>Course 12341</b>
Saturday, Sept. 23, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$50	<b>Course 12342</b>

## Learning to Sail ☎

This course offers you seven hours of intensive on-the-water instruction, including boat rigging, basic knot tying, maneuvering under sail and power, basic piloting and rigging for heavy wind. You will not just be told how to do these, but will get to do them. The purpose of this class is to raise your skill and confidence levels so that, if you wish, you can one day pilot your own boat. No previous experience is needed. Swimming ability is required. Minimum age is 15. Participants will be responsible for their own transportation to the marina.

Deltaville

Saturday, May 13, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$70	<b>Course 11991</b>
Saturday, June 24, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$70	<b>Course 12343</b>
Sunday, July 16, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$70	<b>Course 12344</b>
Saturday, Aug. 19, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$70	<b>Course 12345</b>
Sunday, Sept. 10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$70	<b>Course 12346</b>

## GPS & Navigation for Power Boaters

Both manual plotting and Global Positioning System, or GPS operation will be covered in this course. Learn how to read nautical charts, recognize and use navigational buoys and markers, and use a nautical compass. The course requires two four-hour sessions. The \$40 fee includes a textbook that can be shared by family members. This course is sponsored by the Richmond Sail and Power Squadron. For ages 14 and older  
Rockwood Nature Center, 3401 Courthouse Road  
Saturday, June 3-10, 8 a.m.-noon

\$40/\$7.50 each additional family member **Course 12354**

## Power Boating Safety and Seamanship

This is a classroom course on power-boating skills, safety and regulations. Completion may qualify you for lower boat-insurance fees. This course meets the requirements for jet-ski operators aged 14-15. The \$25 fee includes a textbook that can be shared by family members. This course is sponsored by the Richmond Sail and Power Squadron.

Rockwood Park, 3401 Courthouse Road

Saturday, May 20, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

\$25/\$7.50 each additional family member **Course 12349**

## Fishing – Beginner Freshwater

Participants will learn the basics of fishing, including how to identify different types of fish, cast, read local waters, tie knots, and rig and select artificial lures. Class meets for a two-hour evening course and a fishing trip. All equipment is provided. Minimum age is 8.

Parks and Recreation Administration Building, 6801 Mimms Loop

**Class:** Tuesday, May 9, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**Trip:** Saturday, May 13, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

\$25 adults; \$15 youths **Course 11985**

## Virginia Boat Club

This co-sponsored group provides recreational and competitive rowing to the community and high-schools students. Eight-man and four-man sweep-rowing instruction is offered.

Details: Henry Holswade, 320-2984

## Chesterfield Junior Bassmasters Club

This club for children aged 7-17 provides workshops on how to fish, conservation, biology of fish and lure making, as well as the opportunity to participate in fishing tournaments.

Details: Tim Mick, 526-6968

# Outdoor Adventure Programs

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For more details on outdoor adventure programs, call Greg Velzy at 748-1124.  
Please register at least one week prior to each activity.

## Chesterfield Challenge Course

Bring your group, organization, company, class, co-workers or Scout troop to the Challenge Course. The course consists of high and low elements designed to promote initiative and confidence, as well as strengthen group dynamics, communication and willingness to work together. Brochures are available upon request. Details: Jan Olsen, 751-4133

## Learn to Rock Climb ☎

This course begins with an evening ground-school session to introduce the equipment and knots and cover trip logistics. This will be followed by a day of climbing at Great Falls on the Potomac River. All climbing equipment is provided, including shoes. Transportation to site will not be included. Minimum age is 13. Rockwood Park, 3401 Courthouse Road  
**Class:** Thursday, May 18, 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
**Trip:** Sunday, May 21, 6 a.m.-6 p.m.      \$40      **Course 12330**

## Rock Climbing – After-Work Climb Time ☎

This course is for those who have previous climbing experience and want to practice their techniques. Equipment will be provided, and ropes will be set. Instructors will be on-site to supervise, give pointers and help belay, but there will be no formal instruction. Minimum age is 13.

James River Park System

Tuesdays, 6-8:30 p.m.

May 2	\$12	Course 11987
June 6	\$12	Course 12334
July 6	\$12	Course 12335
Aug. 3	\$12	Course 12336
Sept. 7	\$12	Course 12337

Register early See Page 31 for easy ways to register.

Programs fill quickly

# Nature Programs – Rockwood

For more details on these nature programs, call 674-1629.

## Rockwood Nature Center

Come visit our live snake and turtle exhibits, and explore the forest, pond, marsh and swamp. Listen for the banjo calls of green frogs or the deep voice of a bullfrog living in Gotwals Memorial Pond. Visit our Children's Corner, and learn about the plants and animals that live in the park.

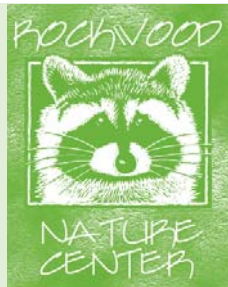
**Location:** Rockwood Park  
3401 Courthouse Road

**Hours:** April-October: Saturday and Sunday, noon-5 p.m.  
Summer hours: Tuesday-Sunday, noon-5 p.m., and Friday, noon-8 p.m.; closed Monday

**Volunteers for Nature:** Adults and teens are needed to staff the Nature Center, monitor trails, and assist with programs and special events.

**Attention Educators:** Come experience Rockwood Nature Center's many educational programs designed to correspond with science Standards of Learning.

For more information, call the Nature Center at 674-1629.



## Rockwood Night Hike

See and hear Rockwood Park after dark. We will discuss night owls and look for bats. We will take a hike through the forest with flashlights in hand and ears peeled for nocturnal activity. Bring a flashlight, and wear sturdy shoes. Children aged 6 and older must be accompanied by an adult. All participants should register at least one week in advance.

Sunday, July 16, 8:30-9:30 p.m.      \$4      **Course 12370**

## Rockwood Junior Naturalist Day Camp

Join us for a day of exploring Rockwood Park. We will meet several of our local reptiles, amphibians and forest creatures. You will learn how to identify several examples of our local plants, trees, birds and animals. At the end of the day, you will receive the honorary degree of Rockwood Junior Naturalist. Bring your lunch and a water bottle, and wear sturdy shoes and socks.

**Section one: Ages 6-8**

Saturday, July 29, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.      \$25      **Course 12383**

**Section two: Ages 9-11**

Saturday, Aug. 5, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.      \$25      **Course 12382**

For more details on these nature programs, call 674-1629.

### Exploring Nature With Small Hands

This series is an introductory look at nature for 3- and 4-year-olds. These programs usually will include a short story and simple craft. A parent or appointed adult guardian must accompany each child, but only the child needs to be registered. To register, call 748-1623. The cost is \$4 per child.  
Thursdays, 10-11 a.m.

#### Who Lives in Our Pond? ☎

Preschoolers will be introduced to different types of pond animals as they observe the nature center's residents.

June 1 Course 12363

#### A Preschooler's First Look at Reptiles ☎

Preschoolers will discover which animals are called reptiles.

June 8 Course 12364

#### Let's Go Camping! ☎

Join us as we take a pretend camping trip at the nature center.

June 15 Course 12365

#### Bugs, Bugs, Bugs! ☎

We will take a short hike to discover where bugs live. Are there good and bad bugs?

July 6 Course 12366

#### What's That Buzzing? ☎

Why should we protect bees? How can we protect ourselves from their stings?

July 20 Course 12367

#### How Does a Plant Grow? ☎

We will discover how a tiny seed can become a plant. We will plant our own seeds to take home.

July 27 Course 12369

#### A Preschooler's First Scavenger Hunt ☎

Let's have fun learning the letters of the alphabet as we hunt for nature things.

Aug. 10 Course 12371

#### Who Lives Underground? ☎

We will explore and discover what really is in the ground as we take a short nature hike.

Aug. 17 Course 12376

#### Who Lives in a Tree? ☎

Come explore with us as we learn to use binoculars on a short nature trail.

Aug. 24 Course 12377

#### Preschooler Scavenger Hunts

We will hunt for nature things as we hike through the forest of Rockwood Park.

Saturdays, 10-11 a.m., \$4

May 6 Course 12412

June 3 Course 12413

July 1 Course 12415

Aug. 5 Course 12416

### Sunday Afternoon in the Park Series

All participants must register at least one week in advance. The cost is \$4 per child. Sundays, 2-3 p.m.

#### Wildflowers ☎

This program is designed for girls aged 7-11 who love nature and are accompanied by a supportive female adult, family member or friend.

May 7 Course 12379

#### Walk in the Woods with a Naturalist

Join a naturalist or two on a guided walk through the park. Bring your curiosity and a water bottle, and wear sturdy shoes. For ages 6 and older

May 21 Course 12378

#### A Child's First Look at Snakes

Three gentle non-venomous local snakes will be introduced in this program for 3- and 4-year-olds. A parent must accompany each child. This program is for children aged 3 and 4 only.

June 4 Course 12368

#### A Summer Scavenger Hunt

With a nature grocery list in hand, you will investigate the forest's sights and sounds. For ages 6 and over, accompanied by an adult

June 11 Course 12374

#### Cool Off in the Pond

Come and cool off in Rockwood's creek beds and Gregory's Pond with us (ankle deep of course). Please wear clothes and closed-toe shoes (avoid sandals) that can get wet and dirty. Bring sharp eyes and a water bottle. For ages 6 and older

June 25 Course 12381

#### Snakes for the Whole Family

Learn the differences between the venomous and non-venomous snakes of Virginia. For ages 5 and older

July 9 Course 12328

#### Pet Care and Responsibilities

We will discuss the responsibilities of pet ownership. Individuals with severe pet allergies should refrain from registering. For ages 6 and older

July 23 Course 12372

#### A Guided Dog Hike

This is a hike for dogs and their families. Dogs must be up-to-date on vaccinations and must get along well with other dogs. Bring your handler and your leash. Please bring a water bottle for you and your companion. We plan to end with socialization in our new dog park. For handlers aged 9 and older and dog of all ages.

July 30 Course 12373

#### Creating Nature Crafts

Join us and learn how to make some of our favorite nature crafts. For everyone aged 5 and over

Aug. 6 Course 12384

For more details on these nature programs, call Mark Battista at 706-9690.

## Dutch Gap Conservation Area

The 809-acre conservation area features bottomland forest, tidal and non-tidal marshes, a fresh water pond, meadows, a tidal lagoon, trails for hiking and biking, and scenic areas for fishing.

**Hours:** 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. (November through March); 8 a.m.-8:30 p.m. (April through October)

**Directions:** From I-95, take exit 61 (Route 10, Hopewell) east to first traffic signal. Turn left onto Old Stage Road (Route 732), travel two miles to stop sign at Coxendale and follow to park entrance on right, Henricus Park Road.

**Details:** Noel Losen, 748-1129, or Mark Battista, 706-9690



## Parent and Child Paddling Explorations ☎

Attention moms and dads: Bring your kids (minimum age is 8) to the Dutch Gap Conservation Area to experience paddling. Canoes and sit-on-top kayaks are available. This program will review basic paddling skills and provide a chance to paddle and explore the tidal lagoon. An adult must accompany and participate with each child. Paddling time is approximately two hours. Register at least one week before program.

Program takes place at Dutch Gap Conservation Area.

\$10 per person

### Trip 1: Graveyard Paddle

Paddle to the old sunken tugboat and the “skeleton” of wooden barges. Bring a snack and drink.

Friday, June 30; 8-11 a.m.

Course 12112

### Trip 2: Island Paddle

Visit the various islands in the lagoon. What do the islands reveal about history and wildlife? Bring a lunch and drink.

Tuesday, July 18; 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Course 12114

### Trip 3: Graveyard Paddle

Paddle to the old sunken tugboat and the “skeleton” of wooden barges. Bring a snack and drink.

Tuesday, Aug. 1; 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Course 12113

### Trip 4: Wetlands Discovery Paddle

Start at the peninsula, then paddle across the lagoon and into the tidal wetlands. Discover the purple of the pickerelweed and the giant leaves of the American lotus. Bring a snack and drink.

Tuesday, Aug. 15; 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Course 12116

### Trip 5: Island Paddle

Visit the various islands in the lagoon. What do the islands reveal about history and wildlife? Bring a snack and drink.

Wednesday, August 30; 8-11 a.m.

Course 12115

## Dawn Discoveries

Start your morning at the Dutch Gap Conservation Area, and join the naturalist to explore the forest, wetlands, meadows, lagoon, vernal pool or river. All programs are \$4 per child and begin at 8:30 a.m. at the Henricus Visitors Center. Parents attend free. Unless noted, all programs are about 90 minutes in length and are for children aged 5-12. Register at least one week before program.

### NEW! June 28 – Great Blues and Bald Eagles

Search the wetlands for the great blue heron. Look atop the cattails for the redwing blackbird. Check out the nests for an osprey. And if you're lucky, you could see a bald eagle overhead.

Course 12091

### NEW! July 12 – Biking Dutch Gap

Bring your fat-tire bike (hybrid or mountain bike) to Dutch Gap to peddle through and explore the conservation area. Find out how the lagoon was created and where the Virginia Navy was sunk. Stop at the desert to search for fence lizards and at the peninsula for a snack. This is an easy eight-mile ride appropriate for bike trailers. This program will last about three hours. Participants must bring their own bikes, water and snack. Helmets are required.

Course 12092

### NEW! July 19 – Hidden Treasures

Use a map and compass to explore and find nature's treasures. Kids will ramble along the River or Dutch Gap trails to locate hidden treasures. This program will introduce kids to basic map reading and compass skills.

Course 12093

### NEW! July 26 – Hip Boot Hike

Put on your hip boots, waders or muckers, and join the naturalist for a hike where “no man has gone before.” We will explore the watery world of river edges, marsh, swamp or vernal pool. Boots should be at least shin-high. For ages 7-12

Course 12094

### Aug. 2 – Wildlife Detectives

Are you a wildlife detective? Sleuth along the boardwalk and find artifacts and other clues to guess the identity of some wetland creatures. For ages 9-12

Course 12095

### Aug. 9 – The Wonderful World of Bugs

Bugs are everywhere! Look under logs and leaves, in the water and inside plants to find the wonderful world of bugs.

Course 12096

### Aug. 23 – Lagoon Boat Tour

Take a cruise to discover the tidal lagoon. Discover wildlife that lives in the lagoon, and visit the graveyard. Parents/adults must supply personal flotation devices for children weighing less than 50 pounds.

Course 12097

## Private Canoe/Kayak Tours

Enlist the naturalist for a private nature tour to discover and explore the Dutch Gap Conservation Area. All trips include canoe and/or sit-on-top kayaks, paddles, personal flotation devices, basic paddling instructions and guided tour. Tours can accommodate an individual, couples or groups of up to 14. For more information and to schedule a tour, call Mark Battista, 706-9690.

For more details on these nature programs, call Mark Battista at 706-9690.

### Tidewater Paddling Explorations

Join the naturalist staff to paddle and explore the natural and cultural history of the Tidewater region. All trips are suitable for all skill levels and include transportation, canoes or kayaks, life vests, paddles, paddling instructions and guides. Unless noted, minimum age is 8. Adults must accompany children aged 8-14. Register at least one week before program.

#### Wetlands Paddle

Start your trip at the peninsula in the Dutch Gap Conservation Area. Paddle across the tidal lagoon and down the oxbow channel. Next, portage your boat an easy 50 feet, then paddle with the high tide into the tidal marsh. Search for ospreys, herons and egrets. Observe the pickerelweed, swamp rose and American lotus. Paddling time is approximately three hours.

Henricus Park Visitors Center, 251 Henricus Park Road

Trip 1: Saturday, June 17; 8 a.m.-Noon \$15 Course 12106

Trip 2: Saturday, July 15; 7-11 a.m. \$15 Course 12107

#### Tidal Lagoon Paddle

Paddle with the naturalist to discover and explore the Dutch Gap Conservation Area. Paddle to the graveyard, islands and the labyrinth. Search for great blues, bald eagles, ospreys and other denizens of the tidal lagoon. Paddling time is approximately two hours.

Henricus Historical Park Visitors Center, 251 Henricus Park Road

Trip 1: Saturday, July 1, 8-11 a.m. \$10 Course 12109

Trip 2: Saturday, July 29, 7:30-10:30 a.m. \$10 Course 12110

#### Dolphin Paddle

Head down to Sandbridge on the Atlantic Ocean to paddle with dolphins. This trip will use tandem sit-on-top kayaks that are easy to use. Observe and learn about dolphins and the marine environment, and even get a chance to surf the waves on your kayak. In the event of strong winds and/or high surf, the trip will be relocated to Back Bay. Minimum age is 12. Paddling time is approximately three hours. Transportation is not provided for this program. Participants must provide transportation to Sandbridge. Maps and directions will be provided.

Ocean Rentals, 577 Sandbridge Road

Saturday, July 1, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. \$25 Course 12117

Register by July 1.

### Lagoon and Oxbow Boat Tour

Take a cruise on our new pontoon boat to explore the tidal lagoon and oxbow. Search for bald eagles and ospreys, find out how the islands were made, visit the graveyard and cruise into the oxbow. Parents/adults must supply personal floatation devices for children under 50 pounds. Adults must accompany children aged 14 and younger. Register at least one week before program.

Henricus Historical Park Visitors Center, 251 Henricus Park Road

Trip 1: Tuesday, June 27, 8-9:30 a.m. \$4 Course 12098

Trip 2: Friday, July 14, 8-9:30 a.m. \$4 Course 12099

Trip 3: Wednesday, July 19, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$4 Course 12100

Trip 4: Wednesday, Aug. 2, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$4 Course 12101

Trip 5: Wednesday, Aug. 16 10-11:30a.m. \$4 Course 12102

### Back Bay Wilderness Paddle

Paddle into the wilderness-like setting of the Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge is home to many wetland species, including otters, minks, muskrats and bald eagles. The paddle starts in a swamp environment, then enters a marsh and ends in the expansive Back Bay. Common wildlife encounters include ospreys, kingfishers, herons, basking turtles and snakes. Paddling time is approximately three hours. Transportation is not provided for this program. Participants must provide transportation to Sandbridge. Maps and directions will be provided.

Ocean Rentals, 577 Sandbridge Road

Saturday, Aug. 5, 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. \$25 Course 12118

### Morning Paddle in the Tidal Lagoon

Start your morning by paddling the Dutch Gap Conservation Area. Visit the graveyard, cypress grove, oxbow, and the labyrinth. Search for great blues, bald eagles, ospreys and other denizens of the tidal lagoon. Paddling time is approximately three hours.

Henricus Park Visitors Center, 251 Henricus Park Road

Trip 1: Saturday, Aug. 12; 6:30-10 a.m. \$15 Course 12103

Trip 2: Saturday, Aug. 26; 6:30-10 a.m. \$15 Course 12104

### Moonlight Paddle

Embark on an evening paddle at the Dutch Gap Conservation Area. Slip quietly through the waters to observe wildlife. Watch the sunset, then behold the moonrise. Minimum age is 10. An adult must accompany children aged 10-14. Paddling time is approximately three hours.

Henricus Park Visitors Center, 251 Henricus Park Road

Friday, Sept. 8, 4:30-8:30 p.m. \$15 Course 12108

### Sunset Paddle

Paddle and ride with the high tide to explore the tidal lagoon at the Dutch Gap Conservation Area. Paddle into the graveyard, through the wetlands and, finally, into the labyrinth. Find out how the lagoon was created, discover where the cypress trees grow and learn what creatures live there. Minimum age is 10. An adult must accompany children aged 10-14. Paddling time is approximately three hours.

Henricus Park Visitors Center, 251 Henricus Park Road

Saturday, Sept. 23; 4-8 p.m. \$15 Course 12105

### Presquile Island Boat Tour

Join the county naturalist and the refuge manager for a special boat tour around Presquile Island National Wildlife Refuge. Learn the history of the island and the purpose of the wildlife refuge while enjoying a cruise and searching for wildlife.

Thursday, May 4, 9-11 a.m. Meet at the end of Bermuda Hundred Road; directions will be provided.

Free, but call 706-9690 to register at least one week before program.

Details: Mark Battista, 706-9690

For more details on these nature programs, call Kristi Orcutt at 706-2734.

## Naturalist Webelos Scout Badge

Visit Rockwood Nature Center to complete the requirements for your Naturalist Pin. We'll observe birds, learn about poisonous plants and venomous reptiles, and even weave a food web as we walk the trails toward the wetlands of Gregory Pond. For boys aged 9-11

Rockwood Park, 3401 Courthouse Road

Wednesday, May 3, 6-7:30 p.m. \$6 Course 12410

Wednesday, Aug. 16, 10 a.m.-11:30 p.m. \$6 Course 12411

## Finding Your Way Junior Girl Scout Badge

While traveling over hill and over dale, learn to use that map and compass you carry in your backpack. Enjoy games and interactive activities, then demonstrate your new skills on an exciting scavenger hunt through the woods at Rockwood Park. For girls aged 8-11

Rockwood Park, 3401 Courthouse Road

Wednesday, May 10, 6-7:30 p.m. \$6 Course 12400

## Outdoor Adventurer Brownie Badge

Enjoy a scavenger-hunt hike with the naturalist while learning how to stay safe outdoors and completing at least four activities to earn your Outdoor Adventure Try-It Badge. For girls aged 6-8

Rockwood Park, 3401 Courthouse Road

Wednesday, May 17, 6-7:30 p.m. \$6 Course 12405

## Ecology Junior Girl Scout Badge

Our naturalists will introduce you to many of our tree and wildflower species as we examine the forest at Rockwood Park from top to bottom to complete the requirements for the Ecology Badge. For girls aged 8-11

Rockwood Park, 3401 Courthouse Road

Tuesday, Aug. 15, 10-11:30 a.m. \$6 Course 12402

## Outdoor Fun Junior Girl Scout Badge

Earn your Outdoor Fun Badge by completing five activities. Girls will use "leave no trace" methods to build a fire and prepare a delicious campfire meal. After dinner, we'll learn some new knots and outdoor games and songs. For girls aged 8-11

Robious Landing Park, 3700 James River Road

Wednesday, Aug. 16, 6-8 p.m. \$7 Course 12401

## Wildlife Junior Girl Scout Badge

What's the difference between reptiles and amphibians? Would you know a goldfinch if you saw one? Which animals are endangered in Virginia and why? The answers to these and many more questions will be explored as you complete the Wildlife Badge at Rockwood Nature Center. Participants must be registered Girl Scouts.

Rockwood Park, 3401 Courthouse Road

Thursday, Aug. 17, 7-8:30 p.m. \$6 Course 12404

## Robious Ranger Programs

Registration is required.

Robious Landing Park, 3700 James River Road

Thursdays, 1-2:30 p.m.

### Let's Go Fishing

Have fun, and catch a memory. Learn about fishing gear and lures, how to bait a hook, cast your line and properly handle a fish.

Bring your own rod, or use one of ours. Parents are encouraged to participate. Registration is required. For ages 5-12

June 22 \$4 Course 12390

### Compass Crusades

Learn how to find your way through the forest using a compass and map. Enjoy a variety of games and interactive activities, then demonstrate your new skills on an exciting scavenger hunt along the trails of Robious Landing Park. For ages 8-12

July 6 \$4 Course 12393

### Japanese Fish Printing

Create beautiful works of art in the ancient style of Gyotaku, the art of fish printing. We provide the rubber fish and rice paper, but you also may bring a prewashed T-shirt or tote bag to create your own wearable art. This is an easy craft that is lots of fun. For ages 5-12

July 27 \$4 Course 12388

### Letterboxing

Explore the trails of Robious Landing Park as you participate in this fast-growing family hobby. Design and create your own stamp, learn to use a compass and then set out on a creature-feature letterboxing quest. A parent or adult is required to participate.

For ages 5-12

Aug. 3. \$4 Course 12392

### Building for Birds

Do something constructive this summer, and build a home for our feathered friends. Learn about our local birds and how to attract them to your backyard. All materials and tools are provided. You must bring a parent or grandparent to help.

For ages 5-12

Aug. 10 \$10 Course 12391

